

A-Form of Cytoplasmic Domain of nARIA (CRD-neuregulin) And
Uses Thereof

Abstract of the Disclosure

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This invention provides an assay for diagnosing whether a subject has or is predisposed to developing a neoplastic disease which comprises: a) obtaining a biological sample from the subject; b) contacting the sample with an agent 10 that detects the presence of an extracellular domain of nARIA (CRD-neuregulin) or an isoform thereof; c) measuring the amount of agent bound by the sample; d) comparing the amount of agent bound measured in step c) with the amount of agent bound by a standard normal sample, a higher 15 amount bound by the sample from the subject being indicative of the subject having or being predisposed to developing a neoplastic disease. One embodiment of this invention is a method for maintaining synaptic connections between a neuron and a target cell comprising contacting the target cell with 20 an nARIA polypeptide or a nucleic acid molecule encoding nARIA in an amount sufficient to induce the formation of a synaptic junction.

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